

ATTACHMENT - CLAIMS LISTING

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1-5. (Canceled).

6. (Currently Amended) A sports ball valve of a one-piece construction comprising:

a disc-shaped mounting member adapted to provide for mounting of the valve;
and

a valve element connected to the mounting member and being of a conical or frusto-conical shape having its reduced diameter portion directed in a forward flow direction, the valve element including a collapsible aperture which is located at or adjacent the reduced diameter portion, and which, in an open condition, allows for flow of a fluid in the forward direction through the valve, while in a closed condition, the collapsible aperture prevents flow of the fluid in a reverse direction, the valve element being connected to the mounting member via an isolation zone defined by an annular recess of the valve which is configured to reduce the likelihood of the collapsible aperture opening under application of external operational forces to the mounting member, the isolation zone being disposed intermediate the mounting member and the valve element, the valve element thus being of a bulbous configuration.

7. (Previously Presented) A valve as claimed in claim 6 wherein the collapsible aperture is arranged to open under fluid pressure alone without relying upon an injector which penetrates the collapsible aperture.

8. (Previously Presented) A valve as claimed in claim 6 wherein the collapsible aperture is arranged to receive an injector.

9. (Previously Presented) A valve as claimed in claim 6 wherein the valve element is at least in part formed from a resilient material.
10. (Previously Presented) A valve as claimed in claim 9 wherein the isolation zone is more flexible than the valve element.
11. (Previously Presented) A valve as claimed in claim 6 wherein the annular recess is defined or formed by a reduction in the cross-sectional area of the valve.
12. (Previously Presented) A valve as claimed in claim 6 wherein the isolation zone comprises a narrowed neck portion of the valve which joins the mounting member and the valve element.
13. (Previously Presented) A valve as claimed in claim 11 wherein the transverse cross-sectional area of the valve at the isolation zone is approximately 30 to 80% of the maximum transverse cross-sectional area of the valve element.
14. (Previously Presented) A valve as claimed in claim 6 wherein the isolation zone is one of two or more isolation zones.
15. (Previously Presented) A valve as claimed in claim 6 comprising another mounting member, the other mounting member being connected to the mounting member via one or more of the isolation zones or additional isolation zones which allow the mounting member and other mounting member to move substantially independently of each other.
16. (Previously Presented) A valve as claimed in claim 15 wherein the mounting member and other mounting member are connected to, or arranged for connection to, a mounting surface.

17. (Previously Presented) A valve as claimed in claim 16 wherein one of the mounting surfaces is connected to or forms part of a first vessel.
18. (Previously Presented) A valve as claimed in claim 17 wherein another of the mounting surfaces is connected to or forms part of a second vessel.
19. (Previously Presented) A valve as claimed in claim 15 wherein the one or more additional isolation zones comprise a flexible sleeve that surrounds at least in part the isolation zone of the valve element.
20. (Previously Presented) A valve as claimed in claim 19 wherein the flexible sleeve comprises an extendable and contractible sleeve member which is extendable and contractible in an axial direction.

Claims 21-25. (Canceled).

26. (New) In combination, a sports ball and a sports ball valve, said valve comprising:

a disc-shaped mounting member adapted to provide for mounting of the valve;
and

a valve element connected to the mounting member and being of a conical or frusto-conical shape having its reduced diameter portion directed in a forward flow direction, the valve element including a collapsible aperture which is located at or adjacent the reduced diameter portion, and which, in an open condition, allows for flow of a fluid in the forward direction through the valve, while in a closed condition, the collapsible aperture prevents flow of the fluid in a reverse direction, the valve element being connected to the mounting member via an isolation zone defined by an annular recess of the valve which is configured to reduce the likelihood of the collapsible

aperture opening under application of external operational forces to the mounting member, the isolation zone being disposed intermediate the mounting member and the valve element, the valve element thus being of a bulbous configuration.